



MOONE • TSAI

### Wine Profile

## Moone-Tsai 2017 *Cor Leonis* Cabernet Sauvignon

This remarkable cabernet in its especially limited production quantities, receives our *Cor Leonis* designation, to mark its position as Moone Tsai's *signature* Cabernet Sauvignon. *Transfixed by the brightest star in the constellation Leo, the Romans dubbed it **Cor Leonis**, the "Heart of the Lion."*

### Tasting Notes

As some may recall, a series of surprises unfolded during the 2017 growing season, among them, abundant winter rains, a Labor Day heat-spike, and unprecedented windstorms that spawned the rampage of Northern California's wildfires starting on October 7<sup>th</sup>. While we have gratefully left behind the effects of this historic event; Mother Nature has reminded us of her good graces, i.e., that allowed us to harvest 90% of the crop before the fires hit. This fortuitous sequence permit us to present our remarkable twelfth Cor Leonis Cabernet release, a splendid example of how Mother Nature can transform miracles from calamity.

Deep dark-ruby in the glass, the wine's olfactory greeting is marked by blackberry, black cherry, and notes of sweet cedar and cigar box. At the outset, the wine's attack offers hints of black fruit, plum, clove and an earthy freshness. Aged twenty-two months in 42% new French Oak, the mid-palate entices with a sinewy structure marked by grainy tannins, and a deliberate acidity. Further accented with notes of sage, stone and toasted cardamom, the wine is coy and complex, arcing to a satisfying finish of length and resolve. Guardedly assertive, with an underlying vibrancy; the wine is a striking juxtaposition of strength, pluck and intrigue, ... reminiscent of the prodigiously talented actress, Julia Garner, who in her Emmy-award winning role as Ruth Langmore in *Ozark*, is turning everyone's head to see what comes next.

**Vineyards:** Our 2017 vintage demonstrates a remarkable range and complexity befitting its origins from a trifecta of Napa Valley's most celebrated vineyard blocks. This richly expressive wine draws its prized fruit from Pritchard Hill, St. Helena, and Caldwell Vineyard's legendary Block-15 – whose vines have flourished in the rocky, volcanic soils of the heralded Coombsville District for over 30 years.

**Winemaker:** Philippe Melka, Bordeaux-bred (*Chateau Haut Brion, Petrus*) and – heralded by Robert Parker as one of the top nine winemakers in the world. "*Where possible, I will minimize winemaking techniques in the cellar so I can create a wine that tells the story of the vineyard. In the end, it must be about the fruit.*"

### Wine Facts

Varietal Composition:	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
Vineyards:	Pritchard Hill, Caldwell/Coombsville, St. Helena
Production:	380 cases
Harvest Date:	September 27 <sup>th</sup> – October 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2017
Cooperage:	42% new French oak; Taransaud, Ermitage, St. Martin
Bottle Date:	June 4, 2019
Release Date:	September 2020

Available in 3/6/12-packs, and large format bottles

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